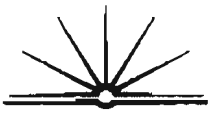
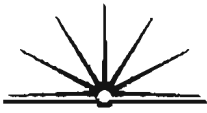


b) Good morning students, my name is [REDACTED] and today I'm going to talk to you all about the concept of "Into the World". Now, a lot of you will be finishing school very soon; after the HSL, some of you will be going to Uni, some of you will be travelling, taking a gap year, or working - all of you will be transacting from the world of high school to a completely different phase of life, a completely different world. But do ~~other people~~ <sup>pathways into new worlds</sup> offer possibilities ~~encourage or prevent~~ <sup>or problems</sup> ~~of new worlds?~~ <sup>of new worlds?</sup> That is what I'm going to talk about today. ~~The films~~ <sup>chosen</sup> the films "Billy Elliot" by Dalroy and "Legally Blonde" by



Luketic to demonstrate and explore this statement.

How many of you have seen Billy Elliot? It's quite an interesting film, isn't it? Well, it tells the story of a young boy, Billy, moving into the world of ballet from a masculine, coal-mining world. At the beginning of the film, we can see Billy jumping up and down on his bed; the close ~~of~~ up of ~~that~~ his joyful expressions conveys a sense of innocence. Billy stretches his limbs, symbolising him reaching out for more. As the film develops, we learn that Billy lives in a coal mining town where the workers are on strike; the line of police shields is a metaphorical boundary, preventing Billy from ~~of~~ going beyond this world. As you ~~However, the first turning point~~



can probably already see, there are already problems Billy has to face in going into <sup>a different</sup> ~~the~~ world. ~~to~~

However, the first turning point of the ~~story~~ film is when Billy crosses over ~~to~~ from the boy's boxing side of the gymnasium to the girl's ballet class on the other side. This is a visual depiction of him breaking the boundaries and into a completely different world - the world of ballet dancing. In a close up shot of his feet, we can see that his boxing shoes stand out significantly from the girl's ballet shoes; this again symbolizes ~~his~~ the difficulties ~~and~~ problems he would face when going into the world of ballet. ~~How~~ Not only this, but he also has to face the stereotypical discrimination, as signified in his



father's dialogue: "Boys do football, wrestling and boxing, not bloody ballet!". The scene where Billy runs down the street releasing his anger through dance moves and crashing into the metal gate further reinforces the boundaries and difficulties he faces, trapped inside the world of masculine coal miners, unable to reach out. But just because there are so many difficulties and problems, doesn't mean there can't be possibilities. As you see, in the scene where Billy crosses over ~~to the~~ the bridge to the dance auditions, this scene acts as a metaphorical depiction of him crossing over from the world of coal miners to the world of ballet; the use of music also changes from pop music "T-Rex" to



"Swan Lake", which is a famous piece of ballet music. This turning point in the film symbolises his gradual success in moving into the world of ballet. Furthermore, in the scene where Billy enters the Royal ballet school, the high angle, Birds-eye-view shot of Billy and his father highlights his insignificance in this newly entered world; the contrast of their dull clothes to the posh ballet costumes also signifies the difficulties Billy will continue to face as he goes further into the world of ballet. But despite these obstacles, Billy impressed the judges by his dance and in the epilogue, we can see Billy ~~fulfilling~~ <sup>succeeding</sup> in becoming a ballet dancer, leaping high into the air with a light shining on him, symbolising his success in reaching and gaining into the world

when Billy's father takes him in the gutter from front  
with Michael, Billy took the chance and dangled it  
of his father, ignoring masculine moves such as kicking & punching just for girls.



of Ballet. So as you can see, despite all the problems Billy faced, he was able to find possibilities and finally reached his goal.

Another film that explores the ~~statement~~ question "Do the pathways to new worlds offer possibilities or problems?" is the film *Legally Blonde*.

Now a lot of you may think: this is just another "chick flick".

But if you study the film closely, you can see that this little "chick flick" is actually quite meaningful.

~~At~~ At the beginning of the film, we can see Elle Woods, the protagonist of the film, surrounded in a glamorous, pink, almost over-

the-top environment; she is portrayed as a typical "Blonde Bimbo", kind of like a Barbie-like figure. ~~Through~~

~~too~~ She is also, because of her appearance,



dumped by her boyfriend because he speculated that she is un-intelligent. However, Elle's intelligence is signified in the scene where a saleswoman ~~is~~ tried to trick her into buying a dress that is not what she said it's worth; Elle cleverly pointed out her plot, and this also signifies her observant nature and therefore, the potential to go into the world of law school — Elle would have to overcome the problem & obstacle of stereotyping because of her appearance. As Elle first enters the world of law school, her appearance contrasted greatly with the rest of the students; she is glamorous, wearing bright colours, while the other students ~~were~~ <sup>are</sup> in dull, casual clothes and with brown or black hair ~~that~~ similar to "Billy Elliot", the



high, Birds-eyes view angle highlights her insignificance in this new environment. The high angle of her professor looking down on her also represent the discrimination she would face on going into the world of law school, as reinforced later by bullying from a fellow classmate.

However, as the film develops, we see Elle changing and overcoming these problems; the appearance gradually changes from glamorous, pink-dressing "blonde bimbo" to ~~more~~ darker colours with less

make up; another interesting use of colour scheme is the increasing number of orange objects around her, as a reference to her earlier monologue that "Orange is so not the new pink!", suggesting her acceptance of change.

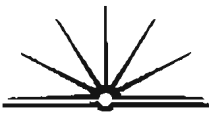




her appearance

~~these~~ As ~~the~~ changes, she ~~has~~ now succeeded in moving into the world of law school, defying the stereotypical speculation that "blondes are dumb". Her success is also highlighted in the scene where she looks out into the crowd of graduates; the close ~~is~~ up of the joyfulness and look of satisfaction on her face represent her success in taking the possibilities to become a lawyer.

~~In conclusion~~ So, "do the pathways into new worlds offer possibilities or problems?" the answer is yes to both; these pathways offer the possibilities to success, but in order to reach for these successes, problems and obstacles must be overcome, so keep that in mind, think ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> how Billy & Elle overcame their obstacles, and you



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will find success in whatever your pathways  
you choose in the future - don't be  
afraid! Thank you for having me  
today, and I wish you all good  
luck for the HSC and for the  
future!